

## More Project Photos



## 2008 Feature Accomplishment

### Wildfire Recovery

#### *Resource Challenge*

The 2005 School and 2006 Columbia Complex Fires impacted landowners and natural resources, including ESA listed streams. Burned areas needed reseeding to prevent erosion. Burned fencing needed replacing to contain livestock.

#### *Project Summary and Results*

Landowners have been severely impacted by wildfires in Columbia County, (School Fire 2005 and Columbia Complex Fire 2006). Through cooperative and coordinated efforts, resource recovery was expedited reducing impacts to water quality and ESA listed fish habitat.

The project was installed in two phases. Phase I included aerial and ground grass seeding of 3,115 acres; 35,000 pine trees planted; and 200,305 feet of livestock fence installed. Phase II finalized the project with installation of an additional 236,033 feet of livestock fence and 153,315 pine and fir trees planted. Today, tree and grass plantings are reducing erosion and sediment impacts to ESA listed fish spawning reaches and acting as filters to minimize contaminants to water quality. Livestock fencing assists in distributing animals throughout the grazing range and minimizing direct impacts to water quality.

All of the fire response efforts expedited resource recovery, enhanced cooperator management options, and built on relationships between all parties involved. Additionally, the community's perspective on agency and legislative responsiveness to local needs was enhanced.

#### *Key Project Partners*

USDA FSA & NRCS, WSCC, Washington State Legislature, Bonneville Power Administration, and Landowners (private and public)



Reseeding operation

## Contact Information

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## More Work To Do

#### *Water Quality & Quantity*

- 12 livestock BMP plans implemented; 13 additional operations identified for management plan development
- Seven efficiencies project installed trusting 11.1 cfs and 951.4 acre feet of water; 3 more projects identified for potential development
- 78 water withdrawals screened and metered; 14 more identified
- One multi-user irrigation ditch piped and 2 additional identified
- 99 miles riparian buffers installed; 201 miles of CREP eligible riparian remaining